

Boston, April 1. 1860.

Dear Burleigh;

Yours of the 29th came duly to hand, and it was a great satisfaction and refreshment to me, and to others, to know that you were so vigorously applying y^rself to the good work of the Report. All that you have sent has been carefully read by three or four of the Comtee, and it gives very great satisfaction indeed.

I have arranged with the printers, (Prentiss and Deland, Congress St., Boston) to send ~~the~~ proofs to you at Florence, and they will send some, they say, the first of this week - which, therefore, you may receive nearly as soon as this. They will read by copy, & may be depended on for doing it well.

As in the case of the last pamphlet, you will not wish, I presume, to include

in the first Report any details of the Society's Operations for that year, but leave the whole to be embraced at once at the close of the pamphlet. It will be best, however, to have a brief paragraph explanatory, at close of the first Report;

I have specially requested the printers to preserve the copy for you.

Your suggestion that the Socy's weekly paper should include all the matter needful for its yearly Report seems very reasonable at first look; but it is, after all, I think more plausible than just. It must be a question of possibilities, and also of its true sphere or objects, with the Standard; and my conclusion is that the St. should not be expected to have all the materials necessary for the Report. Could we publish a semi-weekly sheet, and double at that, like the Semi-w. Tribune we might be able to print every document,

every long debate, every narrative, needful to elucidate, clear up, substantiate, every point & argument of the Report. But, as it is, with only a single sheet, once a week, and $\frac{1}{4}$ of that set aside to subjects of a general character, - and obliged to furnish a variety, for all readers, and to repeat the same facts & ideas many times, in different lights, the Society's paper can not, I think, be required to be a complete repository of all that the Report-writer will need. You doubtless have been obliged to read and wade through very many columns, & even pages, of papers, ~~and~~ to get the material for a dozen lines, and sometimes find large quantities of printed matter, which you have examined, become useless by some new aspect, or juster statement. It is obvious that it is impossible for the Standard, for instance, to give anything like a full report of the debates in Congress on Slavery and its kindred topics; and yet I suppose you have to spend a great deal of time over them.

- Indeed, I have frequently feared that, writing
as you so remote from any large library or public
collection of newspapers, &c, you might be
subjected to serious difficulty in getting at
very important materials.

You will make mention of Mr. Florey's
death, of course, and of his liberal provision, by
~~will~~ will, for the A.S. Cause. He died, if my
memory serves me, on one of the last days of April,

1859.

I remain, Very truly
yrs. J. May Jr.

P.S. As I consider the time of very few
men in the land, just at present, so valuable
as yours, I think I should apologise for taking
up so much of it with this note. I should
rather help than hinder you. -